



Church of the LITTLE FLOWER

The
Light

September 17th, 2023

XXIV SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

XXIV DOMINGO EN EL
TIEMPO ORDINARIO

**"Come to Me,
all you who labor
and are burdened."**

MATTHEW 11:28

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Pastor

REV. MANUEL F. ALVAREZ

Parochial Vicar

REV. ANDREW J. TOMONTO

Priests in Residence

REV. JUAN ESCAMEZ
REV. FRANCIS GNANASEGARAM
REV. STEPHEN SAAWUAN
REV. FIDELIS UKO

Permanent Deacons

DEACON JORGE ALVAREZ
DEACON ROBERTO FLEITAS
DEACON MIGUEL PARLADE

*Together, Worshipping the Lord, Forming Disciples, Serving in the Name of Jesus
Juntos, Adorando al Señor, Formando Discípulos, Sirviendo en Nombre de Jesús*

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday

Time	Language
6:15 am	English
8:00 am	English
5:30 pm	Español

Saturday

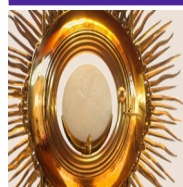
Time	Language
8:00 am	English
5:00 pm	English Vigil

Sunday

Time	Language
7:30 am	English
9:00 am	English
10:30 am	English
12:30 pm	Español
5:30 pm	English

CONFESSIONS

Priests are available to hear Confessions every Saturday morning, from 8:30am to 10:00am.



ST. JOSEPH PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

Visit www.cotlf.org/adoration for more details



CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER - REILLY PARISH CENTER

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Address

2711 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Contact

P. (305) 446-9950
F. (305) 482-6183
www.cotlf.org



OFFICE STAFF

Maria Anduiza - Ext. 314

Finance Manager

Sofia Arrabal - Ext. 316

Rel.Ed. Office Assistant

Luis Cuza - Ext. 308

Director of Music Ministries

Ivonne Davila - Ext. 302

Admin. Asst. to the Pastor

Sacramental Records Coordinator

Juan del Sol - Ext. 311

Weddings Coordinator

Ashley Sacks - Ext. 309

Director of Development

Jorge Santibáñez - Ext. 307

Parish Life Coordinator

Director of Religious Education

Ariadna Schanz - Ext. 300

Receptionist

Rene Denis and

Roberto Campohernoso

Maintenance — *Commodore Prop. Mgmt.*

Nubia Vivas

Custodian



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7:15 am - 3:15 pm

Address

2701 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Contact

(305) 446-1738
www.stscg.org

Administered by the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of LA - Sr. Rosalie, Principal

SACRED STEPS | SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS AT COTLF



Welcome to the Catholic Church!
Congratulations to our newly Baptized.

† Sonny Vivar
† Michael Brian Aporta
† Mario Andres Menegazzo
† Dominic Clement
† Gianna Rose Clement
† Luca Francesco Evangelista
† Emilia Monserrat Mignone
† Lucas Javier Cuza
† Christian Cirilo Hernandez
† Gabrielle Grace Potts
† Victor Alves Arnaud



Congratulations and God's blessings to our newly married couples.

† Andrew Guevara
& Helen Aybar



Rest in Peace.
We pray for our recently deceased.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

- Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office at least two (2) months in advance. Visit cotlf.org/baptism for more information.

- Arreglos de bautizos se deben hacer en la oficina por lo menos con dos (2) meses de anticipación. Visitar cotlf.org/baptism para mas información.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY

- Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance. Visit cotlf.org/weddings for more information.

- Arreglos de bodas se deben hacer en la oficina por lo menos con seis (6) meses de anticipación. Visitar cotlf.org/weddings para mas información.

SIGNS OF OUR STEWARDSHIP

SEPTEMBER 3RD & 10TH

September 3rd

Attendance:	1,514
In-Church Collection:	\$9,782
Online Giving Offertory:	\$13,364
Drop-off/Mail-in Offering:	\$1,290
Children's Collection:	\$518
Devotional Candles:	\$1,455
Poor Box/Charities*:	\$356

**Combined in-person and online*

September 10th

Attendance:	2,460
In-Church Collection:	\$12,592
Online Giving Offertory:	\$13,560
Drop-off/Mail-in Offering:	\$745
Children's Collection:	\$1,848
Devotional Candles:	\$705
Poor Box/Charities*:	\$382

**Combined in-person and online*

*Thank you for your generosity!
¡Gracias por su generosidad!*

Sept 3rd Total: \$26,765

Sept 10th Total: \$29,832

Grand Total: \$56,597

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

WEEKLY EVENTS @ COTLF

Sunday, September 17th

XXIV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

5:00 pm Sat + Raul Lopez
 7:30 am For All Called to Serve as Catechists
 9:00 am + Alejandro Danger
 10:30 am **Missa Pro Populo** - For All Members of Our Parish Family
 12:30 pm + Miguel Cuevas
 5:30 pm For All Students Who Will Receive Sacraments This Year

Monday, September 18th

Monday of Week XXIV in Ordinary Time

6:15 am + Olympia Nuñez
 8:00 am + Ralph Massey
 5:30 pm **Misa Comunitaria**

Tuesday, September 19th

Tuesday of Week XXIV in Ordinary Time / Memorial of Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

6:15 am + Oscar y Zoraida Leal
 8:00 am + Melissa Machado
 5:30 pm **Misa Comunitaria**

Wednesday, September 20th

Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gón, Priest, and Paul Chông Ha-sang,

6:15 am + Deceased Members of the Fernandes De Oliveira Family
 8:00 am + Emilia Beceña y Angel Gonzalez
 5:30 pm **Misa Comunitaria**

Thursday, September 21st

Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

6:15 am + Renato Di Gregorio
 8:00 am Izzy Renella's Birthday
 5:30 pm **Misa Comunitaria**

Friday, September 22nd

Friday of Week XXIV in Ordinary Time

6:15 am + Elio Nuñez
 8:00 am + Christina Lopez
 5:30 pm **Misa Comunitaria**

Saturday, September 23rd

Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

8:00 am + Blas Mendieta Castillo

Sunday, September 24th

XXV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 pm Sat Fr. Manny Alvarez' Birthday
 7:30 am + Nicolas J. Cirillo
 9:00 am + Rene y Mercedes Naranjo
 10:30 am **Missa Pro Populo** - For All Members of Our Parish Family
 12:30 pm + Belkis Milagros Del Castillo
 5:30 pm + Cristina Maria Parlade

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2023

Sunday Sir 27:30 – 28:7; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12;
 Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35
Monday 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday 1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Mt 9:9-13
Friday 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15
Sunday Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a;
 Mt 20:1-16a

SUNDAYS

1:30 pm Homeless Ministry Service Days
Date Varies Monthly – homelessministrycotlf@gmail.com
 6:30 pm COTLF Youth Group
 Izzy Rennella, IRennella@cotlf.org

MONDAYS

10:00 am Seekers Bible Study (Morras Conference Room AND Via Zoom)
Every other Monday, Mercy Gonzalez, drmom92@gmail.com
 7:00 pm Grupo Carismatico: Corazon de Jesus (Cafeteria)
 Maru de Castro, leo12mariposa@gmail.com
 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study Group (Zoom)
 Julie Otero, JOtero@vistacolor.com
 7:30 pm Ejercicios Espirituales de San Ignacio (Morras Conference Room)
 Marcia Iglesias, marcia@amprex.net – Resumes Sept 18th
 7:30 pm Emaus de Hombres (Reilly Conference Room)
 Pedro D. Gonzalez, pdgv209@gmail.com

TUESDAYS

6:30 pm Reaching for a Smile Rosary (St. Joseph Chapel)
 Maru de Castro, 305-335-4104
 7:00 pm OCIA Classes (Cafeteria)
Classes begin on September 26th
 7:00 pm Legion of Mary (Legion of Mary House)
 Maria Lopez, 786-247-3872
 7:30 pm Talleres – Curso Matrimonial (Morras Conference Room)
 Eva y Francisco Guia, 305-984-5944, evagua11@gmail.com
 8:00 pm English Charismatic Prayer Group (Chapel Conference Room)
 Felipe Vizcarrondo, fevmd@bellsouth.net

WEDNESDAYS

4p & 6:30p Religious Education Classes (St. Theresa School)
www.cotlfreligioused.org
 7:30 pm Women's Emmaus (Reilly Conference Room)
 Marifer Ordoñez, mfordonez@earthlink.net
 8:00 pm Communion & Liberation (Chapel Conference Room)

THURSDAYS

6:00 pm Young Adults Praise & Worship Holy Hour (St. Joseph Chapel)
 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (STS Music Room)
 Luis Cuza, LCuza@cotlf.org
 7:00 pm Scouts (STS Cafeteria)
 St Theresa Pack 16, stspack16@gmail.com
 7:30 pm Men's English Emmaus (Reilly Conference Room)
 Core Team, contact@littlefloweremmaus.org
 7:30 pm Talleres – Curso Jovenes (Chapel Conference Room)
 Arminda Baez – 305-927-3191

FRIDAYS

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Morras Conference Room)
3rd Fridays, Monthly, Katy Dunn, 305-443-5947
 6:15 pm American Heritage Girls (Cafeteria)
2nd and 4th Fridays, Monthly, Holly Gomez, holly@gomezmiami.com
 7:00 pm Amor en Accion Monthly Meeting (Reilly Conference Room)
Last Fridays, Monthly
 8:00 pm English Marriage Covenant (Zoom)
 Janetsy Christensen, JanetsyC@bellsouth.net

SATURDAYS

7:00 am First Saturday Devotion Rosary (Church)
1st Saturday, Monthly, Mercy Gonzalez, drmom92@gmail.com
 9:00 am Baptism Preparation Classes (Reilly Conference Room)
1st Saturday (SPA), 2nd Saturday (ENG), Monthly



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Friends:

This past week, our Religious Education Program began a new school year as close to 300 of our parish children began to receive catechesis. Today we celebrate Catechetical Sunday, and we commission our catechists and St. Theresa teachers who sacrifice so much of their time and talent to educate our children in the Catholic faith. We all remember the catechists who passed on the faith to us, and today we thank those who have chosen to catechize for the generational contribution they are making for the good of the parish by passing on the treasures of Catholicism to our little ones.

The greatest treasure of Catholicism is of course the Eucharist! This Catechetical Sunday is an opportune time to remind ourselves that we never stop learning about our faith. Precisely because we are in the midst in of a National Eucharistic Revival and because of our need to better understand the treasure of the Eucharist, today every parishioner is receiving a copy of Bishop Robert Barron's superb new book: "This is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival." Let me share with you an excerpt from the preface of the book in which the bishop explains why he wrote this catechesis:

In 2019, the respected Pew Forum released the results of a survey of Catholics in regard to their belief in the Eucharist. Along with many others, I was startled when I read the data, for I discovered that only one-third of those questioned subscribed to the Church's official teaching that Jesus is really, truly, and substantially present under the signs or appearances of bread and wine. Fully two-thirds held that the Eucharistic elements are merely symbolic of Jesus' presence. Mind you, this was not a survey of the general population or of all Christians, but of Catholics.

Whether you saw it as a failure in catechesis, preaching, theology, liturgy, or evangelization, it was an indication of a spiritual disaster. I say this because the Second Vatican Council clearly taught that the Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." Therefore, the Pew study revealed that the vast majority of our own Catholic People did not understand this central and crucial reality, the beginning and the end of Christianity...

[The U.S. Bishops] resolved to gather by Zoom (this was during COVID) and share ideas. From these conversations, the Eucharistic Revival, presently underway, was born. We resolved that there should be a concerted effort to restore a vibrant belief in the Eucharist and that this should take place at the local, regional, and national levels. We further specified that the process should be structured along the lines of the three transcendentals namely, the good, the true, and the beautiful. Under the rubric of the good, we would look at the social and ethical implications of our Eucharistic faith, the manner in which a commitment to the poor and to social justice flows naturally from our reception of the Body and Blood of the Lord. Under the heading of the true, we would teach, catechize, and preach about the meaning of the Blessed Sacrament, especially the Real Presence of Jesus. And finally, under the prescript of the beautiful, we would draw attention to the liturgical and devotional practices that surround the Eucharist...

The book you are about to read is designed to accompany the Eucharistic Revival. I analyze the source and summit of the Christian life according to the categories of meal, sacrifice, and Real Presence. My sincere prayer is that it might help you understand the sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood more thoroughly, precisely so that you might fall in love with the Lord more completely.

I would like to add to Bishop Barron's sincere prayer by adding one of my own from the heart of your pastor: please read this book! All of us, me included, must deepen our love of the Eucharist. I know I say these words to a parish who already has great devotion to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and has beyond excellent daily Mass attendance, but even Father Andrew and I learned deeper truths by reading this book. It led me to profound prayer into the mystery of the Eucharist, of the blessing of having Christ truly and really present in our midst, and the gift that we share at the Mass when we gather to celebrate God's infinite goodness to us. On this Catechetical Sunday, may we all heed the call to be catechized daily. We begin the journey into the heart of our Lord by learning more about the great gift he left us in the Holy Eucharist. Enjoy the book!

God bless you all,



DEL ESCRITORIO DEL PARROCO

Mis Queridos Amigos:

La semana pasada, nuestro Programa de Catecismo para los niños comenzó un nuevo año escolar con casi 300 de nuestros jóvenes recibiendo catequesis. Hoy celebramos el Domingo Catequético y comisionamos a nuestros catequistas y maestros de Santa Teresita que sacrifican gran parte de su tiempo y talento para educar a nuestros niños en la fe católica. Todos recordamos a los catequistas que nos transmitieron la fe, y hoy agradecemos a quienes han elegido catequizar por el aporte generacional que están haciendo por el bien de la parroquia al transmitir los tesoros del catolicismo a nuestros pequeños.

¡El mayor tesoro del catolicismo es, por supuesto, la Eucaristía! Este Domingo Catequético es un momento oportuno para recordarnos que nunca dejamos de aprender sobre nuestra fe. Precisamente porque estamos en medio de un avivamiento eucarístico nacional y debido a nuestra necesidad de comprender mejor el tesoro de la Eucaristía, hoy cada feligrese recibe una copia del magnífico nuevo libro del obispo Robert Barron: "Esto es mi Cuerpo: Un llamado al avivamiento eucarístico". (Lamentablemente, el libro solamente está publicado en inglés por ahora). Permítanme compartir con ustedes un extracto del prefacio del libro en el que el obispo explica por qué escribió esta catequesis:

En 2019, el respetado Pew Forum publicó los resultados de una encuesta realizada a católicos sobre su creencia en la Eucaristía. Como muchos otros, me sorprendí cuando leí los datos, porque descubrí que sólo un tercio de los interrogados suscribía la enseñanza oficial de la Iglesia de que Jesús está real, verdadera y sustancialmente presente bajo los signos o apariciones del pan y el vino... Dos tercios sostuvieron que los elementos eucarísticos son meramente simbólicos de la presencia de Jesús. Eso sí, esta no fue una encuesta de la población general ni de todos los cristianos, sino de los católicos.

Ya sea que lo vieras como un fracaso en la catequesis, la predicación, la teología, la liturgia o la evangelización, fue una indicación de un desastre espiritual. Digo esto porque el Concilio Vaticano Segundo enseñó claramente que la Eucaristía es "la fuente y cumbre de la vida cristiana". Por lo tanto, el estudio de Pew reveló que la gran mayoría de nuestro propio Pueblo Católico no entendía esta realidad central y crucial, el principio y el fin del cristianismo...

[Los obispos de EE. UU.] resolvieron reunirse por Zoom (esto fue durante COVID) y compartir ideas. De estas

conversaciones nació el Avivamiento Eucarístico, actualmente en marcha. Resolvimos que debería haber un esfuerzo concertado para restaurar una creencia vibrante en la Eucaristía y que esto debería llevarse a cabo a nivel local, regional y nacional. Además, especificamos que el proceso debería estructurarse siguiendo las líneas de los tres trascendentales, es decir, el bien, la verdad y la belleza. Bajo la rúbrica del bien, miraríamos las implicaciones sociales y éticas de nuestra fe eucarística, la manera en que el compromiso con los pobres y con la justicia social fluye naturalmente de nuestra recepción del Cuerpo y la Sangre del Señor. Bajo el título de verdad, enseñaríamos, catequizaríamos y predicaríamos sobre el significado del Santísimo Sacramento, especialmente la Presencia Real de Jesús. Y finalmente, bajo la prescripción de lo bello, llamaríamos la atención sobre las prácticas litúrgicas y devocionales que rodean la Eucaristía...

El libro que estás a punto de leer está diseñado para acompañar el Avivamiento Eucarístico. Analizo la fuente y cumbre de la vida cristiana según las categorías de comida, sacrificio y Presencia Real. Mi oración más sincera es que os ayude a comprender más a fondo el sacramento del Cuerpo y la Sangre de Jesús, precisamente para que os enamoréis más plenamente del Señor.

Me gustaría sumarme a la sincera oración del obispo Barron añadiendo una oración personal desde el corazón de su pastor: ¡por favor lean este libro! Todos nosotros, incluido yo, debemos profundizar nuestro amor por la Eucaristía. Sé que les digo estas palabras a una parroquia que ya tiene una gran devoción a la Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento y tiene una asistencia diaria a Misa más que excelente, pero incluso el Padre Andrew y yo aprendimos verdades más profundas al leer este libro. Me llevó a una oración profunda sobre el misterio de la Eucaristía, de la bendición de tener a Cristo verdadera y realmente presente entre nosotros, y el regalo que compartimos en la Misa cuando nos reunimos para celebrar la infinita bondad de Dios para con nosotros. En este Domingo Catequético, que todos prestemos atención al llamado a ser catequizados diariamente. Comenzamos el viaje hacia el corazón de nuestro Señor aprendiendo más sobre el gran regalo que nos dejó en la Sagrada Eucaristía. ¡Disfruten el libro!

Que Dios los bendiga a todos,

Fr. Manny



RETIRO DE CONVENIO MATRIMONIAL

29 septiembre – 1 de octubre, 2023

¿Sienten que la pandemia ha afectado su matrimonio?
¿Están buscando un fin de semana especial para compartir como pareja, para relajarse y para acercarse a Dios? ¿Un fin de semana para compartir ideas sobre cómo tener un matrimonio más feliz y una familia más armoniosa?

El Retiro de Convenio Matrimonial es un fin de semana de actividades, charlas y ejercicios destinados a fortalecer nuestra relación de pareja.

El retiro provee una oportunidad única para reflexionar sobre dónde estamos, hacia dónde vamos y pasar un buen rato con otras parejas en un ambiente divertido y relajado.

Lugar: Comber Hall • Valor: \$150

Para mayor información contactar a
Mariana Lorenzo • 305-505-8188
Marifer Odoñez • 305-608-3072



Inscríbese en nuestra aplicación digital:



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, August 20

6:30 P.M. at Comber Hall
1251 Palermo Avenue

Follow us on Instagram: @cotlfyg



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP IS BACK!

Join us every Sunday for Mass at 5:30pm and then head over to Comber Hall at 6:30pm for some food, fellowship and fun!

For more information about the youth group and how to get involved, contact Izzy Rennella at IRennella@cotlf.org or follow the YG Instagram @COTLFYG

WALKING WITH PURPOSE WOMEN'S GROUP

Walking with Purpose is a program that meets women right where they are, hands them a cup of coffee, and transforms their hearts. We are thrilled to announce that we will offer two Bible studies this season. Trust us. This may be your best YES ever.

- **Opening Your Heart**, our foundational study, is perfect for a woman new to WWP (with or without Bible study experience). We invite you to be amazed at how Scripture applies to your everyday life.
- **Keeping in Balance**, a WWP community favorite, is for women who have already experienced Opening Your Heart. Come on a journey through Old and New Testament wisdom as we discover Scripture's relevance to our current daily challenges.



STS Bible Studies Starting Soon!
Both study groups will meet Thursday mornings
Starts OCTOBER 5, 2023
Location: Comber Hall | Time: 7:45 am
Questions? STSWalkingWithPurpose@gmail.com

Signup Today:
<http://tinyurl.com/STSWWP>



walking with purpose

INTRODUCING "THAT MAN IS YOU!"

TMIY is an interactive men's program combining the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive. By honestly addressing the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, *That Man is You!* Seeks to form men who will be capable of transforming homes and society.

Discover:

- † The Scriptural vision of man and the overwhelming scientific evidence that supports this vision.
- † The four leadership roles that have been entrusted to men and the five personal traits necessary for fulfilling these leadership roles.
- † How and why Satan always attacks the union of man and woman.
- † The three main obstacles to living as authentic men and the means for overcoming them.
- † The wonderful renewal God is offering to men and their families through the Church.

COTLF's TMIY! Group will meet on Tuesday mornings, at 7:45am in Comber Hall, starting on September 19th! Scan the QR code to sign up now or contact Rob Lasa for more information, 305-934-7840.



RELIGIOUS ED 2023-2024 REGISTRATION

Whether your kids are just starting to learn about our Catholic faith as a Kindergartner, preparing to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation, or continuing to grow in knowledge and love of the Lord through ongoing faith formation classes, the parish Religious Ed program is here to help! The Parish Religious Ed classes primarily help to fill the gap in Catholic religious education that is encountered by families whose children attend public, charter, or private, non-Catholic schools.

2023-2024 CLASS SCHEDULE:

2023-2024 classes will be held on **Wednesdays only**, from September 13th, 2023 through May 10th, 2024.

Students in Kinder through 6th Grade will have weekly classes from **4:00p-5:15p**
Confirmation Prep (7th Grade and up) classes will take place weekly from **6:30p-7:45p**

The Religious Education Program offers the following Catechetical/Faith Formation classes:

- † Ongoing religious education for students in all grade levels beginning in Kinder
- † Sacramental Preparation for Baptism of children ages 7 to 16
- † Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist
- † Sacramental Preparation for the Conferral of Confirmation

To learn more, visit www.COTLFReligiousEd.org or contact the Parish Office:

Jorge Santibáñez, DRE - JSantibanez@cotlf.org or 305-446-9950, Ext 307
Sofia Arrabal, Rel.Ed. Office Assistant - SArrabal@cotlf.org or Ext. 316



ADULT SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION - OCIA/RCIA

Have you been inspired by the many sacramental celebrations this Easter season? COTLF offers adults an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults. The program serves:

- † Unbaptized adults who wish to become Catholics.
- † Those baptized in another Christian Church who are seeking full communion with the Roman Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.
- † Catholic adults who were baptized Roman Catholic as infants and need to complete their Sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

The 2023-2024 Order of Christian Initiation of Adults ("OCIA/RCIA") program meets on Tuesday evenings. Those who are interested in learning more may register now by visiting our Parish Website at www.cotlf.org/RCIA or by contacting Deacon Roberto Fleitas at RFleitas@cotlf.org

WOMEN'S EMMAUS OPEN MEETING

The Call to Love & Learning to Love

All women of the parish are invited to join the ladies of Emmaus for an open presentation this Wednesday, September 20th, 2023, at 7:30pm.

Guest speaker and Emmaus sister, Dr. Chandra Estefan, will discuss the role of emotional intelligence in responding to God's call to love.

The meeting will take place on the second floor of Comber Hall.
Previous participation in the Emmaus retreat is **not** required.
All are welcome to attend this special gathering.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The Women's Emmaus Ministry

EJERCICIOS ESPIRITUALES DE SAN IGNACIO

Los Ejercicios Espirituales de San Ignacio de Loyola son una secuencia ordenada de meditaciones y contemplaciones -ejercicios- que surgen de la profunda experiencia espiritual que el santo vive a partir de su conversión; su objetivo es ayudar al que se ejercita en ellos a descubrir cuál es la voluntad de Dios para su vida. Los Ejercicios se remontan al Cuaderno de notas en el que Ignacio describe sus experiencias espirituales durante su visita a la ciudad de Manresa, donde—como lo escribe en su Autobiografía - "le trataba Dios de la misma manera que trata un maestro de escuela a un niño, enseñándole."

Los Ejercicios Espirituales de San Ignacio se ofrecerán aquí en la parroquia comenzando el lunes, 18 de septiembre a las 7:30pm en la oficina parroquial, y continuando cada lunes hasta el Abril del 2024 (30 sesiones).

Para mayor información, favor de contactar a Marcia Iglesias, marcia@amprex.net



HOMELESS MINISTRY COLLECTION DRIVE

During the month of September we will be collecting the following items that will be delivered directly to the Missionaries of Charity shelter in Miami's inner city:

-Category 1, Food: Canned & Dry Non-Perishable Foods (ideally large canned items from Gordon Food Service that could be used to stock up the Missionaries of Charity's kitchen pantry. They feed hundreds of homeless a day through their kitchen located in the shelter). Desired donations include large cans of tomato sauces, pastas, rice bags, green beans, corn and other canned vegetables.

Also they can use iced tea powder, small sugar packets and instant coffee. We will also like to collect sliced bread, peanut butter and jelly for sandwiches as well as cases of bottled water.

-Category 2, Women's Hygiene & Toiletry Items: women's deodorant, soap bars, shampoo, shaving cream, cleansing wipes, disposable razors, body lotions, combs/hair brushes, toothpaste and toothbrushes. (Please make sure they are not travel sized items)

-Category 3, Cleaning Supplies: kitchen dish soap, degreaser, clorox/bleach, disinfectant spray and hand sanitizer.

All items can be dropped off ONLY during the following weekend masses at the Homeless Ministry Collection Area inside the church:

Saturday, September 16, 2023 (Evening Mass) • Sunday, September 17, 2023 (All Sunday Masses)

Save the Date for our Next Volunteer Service Day

Come volunteer with us on Sunday, September 24th, 2023 as we head to the Missionaries of Charity shelter to bring all items that were collected during this month's donation drive and provide a helping hand with various tasks around the facility including the feeding of hundreds of homeless men and women. We will have two shifts of volunteers for that day, space is very limited. One shift will be from 8am-10am and a second shift from 10am-12pm. Children must be 12 years and older to participate and accompanied by a parent/legal guardian at all times. Community service hours will be provided to students. If you are interested in attending, please email: homelessministrycotlf@gmail.com. Spots will be provided on a first come, first serve basis.

Follow us on Instagram: @COTLFHomelessMinistry

Scan the QR Code to Join our E-mail List



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■ SAVE THE DATES ■

In celebration of our 65th Anniversary,
the Archdiocese of Miami will be hosting the following special events:

Mass

65TH ANNIVERSARY MASS

Saturday, October 7, 2023 • 5:30 p.m.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY

SOLEMN VESPERS

*Pontifical &
Archdiocesan Honors*

Sunday, October 22, 2023 • 5:00 p.m.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY

*Solemn
Vespers*

Gala



65TH ANNIVERSARY GALA & CONCERT

Saturday, November 11, 2023 • 6:30 p.m.

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Music for the 5:30pm Sunday Mass with the Call

Visit www.cotlf.org/mass or scan the QR code



COTLF PARISH PRAYER LIST



As the number of names being added to our Parish Prayer List has continued to grow, we've moved the list online, under the Perpetual Adoration page of our parish website. Please visit www.cotlf.org/Adoration to view those added to the list and please pray for them during your next visit to the Adoration Chapel.

To add or remove the name of a parishioner, relative, or friend to our Parish Prayer List please contact us at the Parish Office.

The Road to 100!

As we prepare to soon celebrate the Centennial of our beloved parish church and school, it's important to first honor our past, recognizing the firm foundation upon which we stand today. The legacy of our founding parishioners is one we are deeply proud of and as a new year of ministry and service now gets underway, let's take a look back to how it all began!

1951: As the parish celebrated its Silver Jubilee, construction of the permanent church began.

Pictured: Pre-construction rendering of the "new" Church of the Little Flower, which was built according to the original design envisioned by Msgr. Comber 25 years earlier. Construction began in April of 1951 and was completed at a total cost of \$628,000. The church was officially dedicated on December 8, 1952, at a Solemn High Mass presided by Bishop Joseph P. Hurley of St. Augustine.



1960s: Responding to the rapid growth of the parish brought on by the influx of Cuban refugees, a balcony was added to the church to increase seating capacity. The "new" building was also constructed at Saint Theresa School, adding 10 new classrooms on campus.

1977: Adjusting to the liturgical requirements created by the Second Vatican Council, a new marble altar was commissioned (*at left*). It is the same altar that still adorns our sanctuary today.

1989: The last major work was done to the church with the addition of new marble floors, new pews, new doors, and opaque windows to highlight the decorative grills. Comber Hall was also renovated as the parish hall/reception venue that it is today.

These years also saw major changes at Saint Theresa School, with the construction of a new library, the acquisition and renovation of the Carmelite Sister's new convent at the McShane House, and the conversion of the former convent into the parish office center, still presently in use.

Fun Facts:

- Fr. Ronald Beaton was COTLF's first priestly vocation, ordained in 1942.
- The first black priest from the State of Florida also hailed from COTLF: Fr. Curtis Washington, ordained in June 1949 in Mississippi.
- The explosive growth of the parish and region led to the creation of several new parishes: St. Michael (1947), St. Brendan (1953), Immaculata Academy & Columbus High (1958), St. Hugh & St. Thomas (1959), and St. Augustine & St. Raymond (1969).



Under Monsignor Peter J. Reilly's Pastorate, a new marble platform altar was commissioned to replace the temporary wooden altar, that had been used with the new liturgical requirements created by the Second Vatican Council. (Photo of wooden altar, 1976; photo of marble platform altar, June 12, 1977, both from Church of the Little Flower Archives)





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